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FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0302

UNCLAS KUALA LUMPUR 001655

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EAP/RSP RUTH KURZBAUER AND GABRIEL ALVARADO

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PHUM](#) [EAID](#) [KWMN](#) [KPAO](#) [KCRM](#) [SOCI](#) [XB](#) [MY](#)

SUBJECT: WOMEN'S ISSUES FUND GRANT PROPOSAL FOR WOMEN POLITICAL  
LEADERS IN MALAYSIA

REF: SECSTATE 136319

Kuala Lumpur 1620

1. (U) Post recommends the following project for EAP/RSP Regional Women's Issues Fund Small Grants Program (SG) for locally-based organizations. This is an addition to Post's earlier submission (ref B).

a) Name of organization: Education and Research Association for Consumers, Malaysia (ERA Consumer Malaysia. Organization Director, Mr. Marimuthu Nadason; secondary contact, Mr. Mohan Sankaran.

b) Name of project: Leadership Development and Advocacy Skills Training for Women Political Leaders.

c) Total budget requested: \$24,625.

#### ERA Consumer Malaysia Project Description

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2. (U) ERA Consumer Malaysia believes that effective training in advocacy skills will positively influence law and policy-making, as well as improve the government's response to trafficking, gender issues and violence associated with women in Malaysia. ERA Consumer Malaysia plans to carry out a two and a half day workshop on enhancing advocacy skills for 30 female political leaders and activists in Malaysia. At the conclusion of this initial workshop, participants will be asked to formulate an action plan which they intend to carry out after the training. Later in the grant period, ERA will organize a one day workshop to evaluate the achievements of the participants and allow them to share their challenges and successes.

ERA Consumer Malaysia will invite three women in leadership roles from each of the main political parties to participate in the initial workshop, with the goal of addressing barriers the female political leaders face. They will also offer and discuss strategies for success. The program will encourage the participation of women activists who demonstrate a commitment to and capacity for high achievement in their political work. The workshop will also offer exposure to other issues, such as violence against women and human trafficking in Malaysia, with the goal of encouraging greater cooperation between civil society and female leaders in Malaysia. ERA Consumer Malaysia will invite trafficking focused NGOs (like Tenaganita) to discuss the severity and impact of trafficking issues with participants. In addition, the workshops will also be a forum for the participants to forge networks with various NGOs working on these issues.

3. (U) Post will e-mail full applications to the Department, as requested.

KEITH